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AFGHAN REFUGEES RECEIVING GOP HOSPITALITY HAVE HELD PRESS CONFERENCES AND OTHERWISE ISSUED STATEMENTS WHICH "TEND TO AFFECT PAKISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS". SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE NOT ACTUALLY PROHIBITED UNDER THE GOP "ADVICE" BUT THE SUGGESTION IS THAT THE AFGHAN DISSIDENTS MUST ADOPT A LOWER PROFILE.

3. (C) COMMENT: THE GOP STATEMENT RESULTS PARTLY FROM THE TWO PRESS CONFERENCES GIVEN BY AFGHAN DISSIDENTS IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS. THE FIRST CONFERENCE (REF B) WAS HELD WITH THE BLESSING OF THE GOP, WHILE THE SECOND (REF C) WAS NOT, AND RESULTED IN A NEAR TOTAL SILENCE IN THE PRESS ABOUT ITS HAVING TAKEN PLACE. AFGHAN AND SOVIET REACTIONS TO THE CONFERENCES (AND TO THE ACTIVITIES, IN GENERAL, OF THE DISSIDENTS) HAS RESULTED IN THE GOP TAKING THE PUBLIC LINE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN AFGHAN AFFAIRS (REF D).

4. (C) IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, [REDACTED] CONTACTED POLOFF SHERMAN BY PHONE FROM PESHAWAR MARCH 24 AND REPORTED THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF OVERALL UNITY OF COMMAND AMONG GROUPS IS "ON LINE AND SOON TO BE COMPLETED". HE ALSO SAID THE NEWLY-UNIFIED GROUPS HAVE CHOSEN APRIL 2 AS THE DATE FOR AN ALL-OUT ASSAULT ON THE DRA. [REDACTED] THE DISSIDENT TROOPS WILL BEGIN MOVING INTO PARTIA AND KONAR ON MARCH 30 AND WILL COMMIT "ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES" TO THE APRIL 2 EFFORT. [REDACTED]
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All
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PROMISED FURTHER DETAILS SOON.
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